FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 063 2 April 1986

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Panama's Abadia on Upcoming Contadora Meeting [Panama City] A 1
De la Madrid To Open Parliamentary Meeting [NOTIMEX] A 1
River Plate Basin Foreign Ministers To Meet [EFE] A 2

ARGENTINA

Nicaragua-Honduras Clash Seen as 'U.S. Maneuver' B 1
Submarine Eludes Navy's Aerial Searchers B 1
Government Issues Decree on Transport Assets [BUENOS AIRES HERALD 1 Apr] B 2
Government, CGT Leaders Remain at Impasse B 2
Talks Invitation Withheld [BUENOS AIRES HERALD 29 Mar] B 2
April Stoppage Confirmed [BUENOS AIRES HERALD 1 Apr] B 3
Ubaldini, Troccoli Comment B 4
Trade Secretary Says He Resigned 'Verbally' [BUENOS AIRES HERALD 1 Apr] B 4

BOLIVIA

Barthelemy on Teachers Issue, Mineworker Leader C 1
Miner Ordonez Rejects Charges C 2
COB Reports Government 'Repressive Actions' C 2
MNRV Deputy Arrested on Interior Ministry Orders C 3
Joint Maneuvers With U.S. To Start 22 April C 3

BRAZIL

President Sarney Receives UN Secretary General D 1
View Falklands Conflict D 1
Great Britain Interested in Self-Propelled Gun [O GLOBO 31 Mar] D 1
Former Haitian Police Chief in Preventive Custody D 2
USSR, East Europe To Purchase Fiber Optics [O GLOBO 29 Mar] D 2

CHILE

Cuadra on U.S. Officials' Remarks, Reagan Letter E 1
Miners' March Prompts Military Deployment E 1

COLOMBIA

Foreign Minister Scores U.S. Aid to Contras F 1
Government Releases Guerrilla Casualty Figures F 1
Ecopetrol To Expand Oil Prospecting Program [EL TIEMPO 21 Mar] F 1

PERU

Communications Control Organization Dissolved J 1
Police Prevent Placement of 600 Dynamite Sticks J 1
Police Target Guayaga Cocaine Processors J 2
Briefs: Drug Traffickers Captured; Loan Agreement With CAF J 2

URUGUAY

Government Accepts Explanation of Reagan Comments K 1

MEXICO

President Issues Report on 1985 Development Plan M 1
Briefs: 1986 Nonpetroleum Export Plans; 1985 Trade Surplus; Oil Reserves Down M 1

CENTRAL AMERICA

EL SALVADOR

Coprefa Communique on Clashes, Casualties P 1
Correction to ARENA President on Corruption P 1

GUATEMALA

Government Studying Solutions to Belize Issue P 1
Rebels Collect 'War Tax' During Holy Week P 2

HONDURAS

Azcona Receives 'Solidarity' Message From Duarte P 2
Events Surrounding Nicaraguan 'Invasion' Viewed [TIEMPO 31 Mar] P 2
Salvadoran Guerrilla Incursion Reported P 4
Mata says U.S. Pays Official for Extraditions P 4
Former Prisoners Seek Asylum at Mexican Embassy P 4

NICARAGUA

Nora Astorga Cited on Libya, Border Situation P 5
Arce Heads Socialist International Meeting Group P 6
Defense Ministry Reports Actions, Casualties [EL NUEVO DIARIO 1 Apr] P 6
Cardinal Rejects 'Slander' Against Priests [ACAN] P 7
Views D'Escoto Remarks [DPA]
Cardinal Criticized

CUBA

Delegations to Nonaligned Meeting Arrive Q 1
Education Minister's Greetings Q 1
Foreign Ministry Delegation Ends Talks in Zambia Q 1
Mexicans To Defend Migrant Workers at IPU Meeting Q 1
Spokesman Voices Concern at Law of Sea Conference [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER 25 Mar] Q 2
Discussion of Party Program Draft Begins Q 3

PANAMA'S ABADIA ON UPCOMING CONTADORA MEETING

PA011820 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] The troubled situation at the Nicaraguan-Honduran border has hindered the work of the Contadora Group. However, an attempt will be made to end these conflicts at the meeting of area foreign ministers to be held in Panama City over the weekend. Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia made the following statements in this regard:

[Begin recording] [Abadia] What we will try to do now, if we can count on the political will of the Central American countries, is to arrive at a prompt solution for the signing, on a fixed date, of the Document on Peace and Cooperation. Once each country signs the document and assumes the responsibility to fulfill its part, we think there will be no problems, because all of these border conflicts are taken into account in the body of the document.

Therefore, once the document is signed, and once each country faithfully and firmly assumes its commitment, the country that does not abide by the peace document will have to face the consequences of whatever the world has to say regarding its actions.

[Unidentified reporter] In view of the situation at the Honduran-Nicaraguan border, the position that there cannot be peace in Central America if no political solution is achieved in Nicaragua takes on strength....

[Abadia] We believe in an overall solution to the problem in Central America and feel that the solution to these bilateral border problems is envisaged in the peace document itself. If all of us sign the peace document and pledge to fulfill our part, these conflicts will immediately be supervised under the protection, mantle, and oversight of the Document for Peace and Cooperation itself. Therefore, once the peace document is signed it will not be necessary for us to be putting out occasional border fires. The document will envisage all of those problems. [end recording]

DE LA MADRID TO OPEN PARLIAMENTARY MEETING

FL020138 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2319 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 1 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Senate leader Antonio Riva Palacio said today that Mexico will never make unilateral decisions on the foreign debt, but conditions may require that such measures be taken.

The Senate leader said that Mexico will present two draft resolutions at the 75th Interparliamentary Union Conference which will be held in Mexico City on 7-12 April. The draft resolutions include the topics of disarmament, terrorism, elimination of regional conflicts, trade, financing, and the foreign debt.

The parliamentary leader said Mexico's position at the conference will be invariably opposed to any decisions that call for intervention or that make the people's sovereignty vulnerable.

Riva Palacio said Mexico's position on the Contadora Group [sentence as received]. The senate leader said Mexico will promote awareness among legislators to prevent unilateral action that would make the people's sovereignty vulnerable or remove self-determination. In reference to the foreign debt problem, the senator said Mexico will promote a political solution in accordance with its ability to pay and without sacrificing the well-being of the people. No country can sacrifice its people for the foreign debt, said Riva Palacio. That is why we propose international trade based on the ability to pay, and all we require is fair pricing of goods, continued the senator.

In reference to U.S. unilateral acts at the Mexican border to combat drug trafficking and supposed terrorist threats, Riva Palacio said that these bilateral problems can be solved by negotiation.

Riva Palacio stressed that Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid will give a speech inaugurating the 75th Interparliamentary Union Conference on 7 April at the Legislative Palace.

RIVER PLATE BASIN FOREIGN MINISTERS TO MEET

PY220212 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2247 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Brasilia, 21 Mar (EFE) -- It was officially announced here today that the Argentine, Bolivian, Brazilian, Paraguayan and Uruguayan foreign ministers will meet in Buenos Aires on 3 and 4 April.

Uruguayan Jorge Talice, current president of the Inter-Governmental Coordinating Committee of the River Plate Basin, today announced the meeting of the ministers in Buenos Aires.

The agenda includes the study of development projects in the five countries that will help to stimulate the subregional Economic Integration Agreement.

The Buenos Aires meeting will replace the meeting that should have taken place at the end of last year in the Argentine city of Puerto Iguazu, which was suspended.

NICARAGUA-HONDURAS CLASH SEEN AS 'U.S. MANEUVER'

PY282222 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0225 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 28 Mar (EFE) -- The alleged confrontation between Honduras and Nicaragua is "a U.S. maneuver designed to inflate the Central American situation," according to a high-ranking source in the Foreign Ministry. The newspaper TIEMPO ARGENTINO, which is usually well-informed, today published an article stating that "the Foreign Ministry has received information from the (Argentine) embassies in Honduras and Nicaragua that there had been no fighting between regular troops of these two countries."

Citing Foreign Ministry sources, TIEMPO ARGENTINO added: "The Nicaraguan Government even denied that there had been an incident while Honduras admitted that there had been an incident, to which it did not attach great significance and which it regarded as normal." TIEMPO ARGENTINO said Argentina considers the subject "very worrisome," but it believes the U.S. Government has "inflated" the subject to influence U.S. congressmen in the Nicaraguan contra aid vote.

Argentina, Peru, Brazil, and Uruguay are members of the Contadora Support Group. Thus, the Argentine Government maintains "smooth, frequent contacts" with the governments of these countries to analyze the Central American situation. In this respect, it was learned that "high-level" telephone contacts were maintained in recent hours between Buenos Aires and Managua. A conversation between Argentine President Raul Alfonsin and his Nicaraguan counterpart, Daniel Ortega, may have taken place. According to sources consulted by EFE, "Argentina does not believe it necessary to call an urgent meeting of Contadora Group, and its Support Group" but it will work intensively to have the meeting held on 5-6 April in Panama.

SUBMARINE ELUDES NAVY'S AERIAL SEARCHERS

PY020239 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0134 GMT 2 Apr 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Apr (DYN) -- The Navy today admitted that despite a search conducted by Argentine naval units, the submarine that was sighted on 26 March in the Exclusive Economic Zone by a Navy explorer plane could not be found.

A communique that was released tonight expands the information that had already been released regarding the incident, and it [words indistinct] that on that day at 1130 [1430 GMT] a Navy explorer plane "observed a submarine navigating semi-submerged at 38 degrees 35 minutes latitude south and 57 degrees 13 minutes longitude west," [words indistinct] adding that "when the plane overflew the vessel for identification purposes, it submerged." According to the information that has been released, "the sighting occurred in waters which, according to international agreements signed by Argentina, permit the free navigation of merchant vessels, warships and submarines." Therefore, "the fact that the submarine submerged is considered a guilty attitude." Finally, the communique indicates that "naval units and planes started a search in the area that concluded without positive results" and that "the initial sighting did not allow the identification of the submarine."

GOVERNMENT ISSUES DECREE ON TRANSPORT ASSETS

PY020015 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 1 Apr 86 p 7

[Text] -- In an apparent reference to the stoppage threatened last week by CATAC freight fhaulers, the government issues a decree permitting the "temporary" seizure of assets belonging to transport companies in cases of emergency. According to decree 429, which was made public yesterday, earthquakes, epidemics, strikes, lockouts and other disturbances interrupting services with or without reasonable cause all justified the temporary confiscation provided that "public utility" and the need to ensure the "supply of essential services and continuity of normal services" was involved. Article six of the 17 article decree permits the defence ministry to order the intervention of the security forces if transport companies are unable to supply normal services. The decree, dated March 26, is signed by President Raul Alfonsin, ministers Antonio Troccoli (interior), German Lopez (defence), Juan Sourrouille (economy) and Roberto Tomasini (public works) and Economic Co-ordination Secretary Adolfo Canitrot.

In other strike-related news court clerks are to strike today and tomorrow in order to press for the application of a recent 25 percent hike for judges to all courtroom employees. The government is not prepared to offer more than five percent.

Meanwhile the labour front was overshadowed by the news that 13.1 percent of the population was unemployed or underemployed, the highest such figure since official statistics have been kept. Unemployment was 5.9 percent last October and underemployment 7.2 percent, the National Institute for Statistics and Censuses (INDEC) announced yesterday.

INDEC employment figures are based on surveys in Greater Buenos Aires, 19 provincial capitals and four other cities including Rosario. The surveys are held every April and October. Unemployment was actually down on last April's figure of 6.3 percent but well up on the previous October's figure of 4.5 percent. Unemployment was 3.9 percent when the present government started its term.

The upward trend for underemployment has been ininterrupted since April, 1984, when it was 5.4 percent. Underemployment is defined as less that 35 hours a week. Unemployment is 4.9 percent in Buenos Aires, below record levels, but above seven percent in Rosario, Cordoba, Mendoza and Tucuman (11.4 percent), with San Salvador de Jujuy having the highest figure (2.7 percent). San Luis, La Rioja, Salta and Santa Rosa showed the most favourable trends, probably the result of economic promotion schemes. Underemployment in Buenos Aires is 6.5 percent.

GOVERNMENT, CGT LEADERS REMAIN AT IMPASSE

Talks Invitation Withheld

PY292013 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 29 Mar 86 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- The government will not not invite the General Confederation of Labour (CGT) to talks, said Labour Minister Hugo Barrionuevo yesterday, because of CGT Secretary-General Saul Ubaldini's "insults" against members of the government in his speech at the CGT demonstration on Tuesday.

But Barrioneuvo said he was confident that CGT leaders would "reflect" and return to talks because "nobody gets a wage increase without negotiating it first," saying "dialogue is open". He said the government's refusal to invite the CGT to talks was not due to bitterness but rather because of Ubaldini's affronts to government figures including "the president of the nation himself." "There are many reasons why we cannot make a new invitation, and it's not because we're angry but rather out of respect for human dignity since we never insulted anybody," said the labour minister.

In Mar del Plata on Thursday, Barrionuevo said that the CGT "did not analyze the government's proposal" for negotiations and the "guaranteed social wage" -- which replaces minimum wage -- before staging last Tuesday's general strike.

Speaking at the opening of a housing project built by the local commercial workers' union, Barrionuevo said the government will announce the amount of the guaranteed social salary, which Barrionuevo announced in his March 19 speech, before April 10. "There will be no wage increase like those that the government has made up to now, by which (wage-earners) automatically receive an improvement without sitting down to negotiate," said Barrionuevo.

He called on union leaders to "reflect on this, since if they had begun negotiating on March 20, today we would be announcing concrete measures." He denied that officials are "betting on the CGT spending itself out" with repeated strikes and dodged saying how the government would respond to the CGT's threatened 36-hour general strike next month. He said that if the CGT rejects the call for talks, the government "will continue governing because such is its base of legitimacy."

April Stoppage Confirmed

PY020007 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 1 Apr 86 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- The General Confereration of Labour (CGT) announced yesterday that it will go ahead with its planned 36-hour general strike to protest government policies that run "contrary to social justice." Even as he ratified the strike, CGT secretary-general Saul Ubaldini seemed to leave the door open to heading it off, saying the CGT keeps "its most frank willingness to hold dialogue" and that, significantly, no date has been set for the stoppage.

Meanwhile, Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli said at a press conference last night that the government remains "open to dialogue" and seeks a "civilized relation" with the unions. He said the government is willing to discuss incomes policies but said that if the CGT does not respond "in the next few days," the government will go ahead and set new incomes policies itself.

"Obviously, the workers are not going to go without a guaranteed salary, with a maximum and a minimum," said Troccoli. He admitted that storekeepers had violated the Austral plan's price freeze, but repeated his warning that they will be severely punished.

In Cordoba, Labour Minister Hugo Barrionuevo admitted to informal contacts with unidentified CGT leaders in a bid to reach agreement with the unions on the "guaranteed social wage" and head off the general strike.

Speaking after signing a jurisdictional agreement with the Cordoba labour secretariat, Barrionuevo said that "incomes policy will not be subject to partial negotiations" and said it was necessary to secure agreement on a strike-free year with the unions in return for a business promise not to raise prices. His technical undersecretary Armando Caro Figueroa said he was confident that an agreement with the CGT could be reached, calling the CGT's apparent confrontation with the government "verbiage." But both he and Barrionuevo said the Austral plan was not negotiable. Ubaldini, speaking to the press after a three-hour meeting of the CGT's executive council, denied that the labour hierarchy was increasingly faction-ridden by saying that all decisions were taken by unanimity.

Ubaldini, Troccoli Comment

PY011530 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2322 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 31 Mar (TELAM) -- The General Confederation of Labor (CGT) has declared itself to be in permanent session. This measure has been taken to enforce the measures of the plan designed by the last CGT national plenary held in Corrientes. The measures include a 36-hour stoppage in April, on a date not yet established. In a communique read by CGT Secretary General Saul Ubaldini this afternoon at the CGT headquarters after an executive council meeting, the labor organization stated that it will continue to apply its plan until the government grants the just demands of the workers. The communique adds that the CGT executive council, through its secretary general, will always be willing to engage in dialogue providing the government is willing to provide full employment and reactivate the economy. The communique adds that the government proposals, which have so far disregarded social justice, seek to neutralize all the workers' achievements, as in the case of Law No. 14,250 which seeks to steadily reduce the country's productive capacity. Finally, the communique states: We will adopt the necessary measures to reactivate independent growth, according to our 26-point proposal that advocates decent salaries and retirement pensions.

TRADE SECRETARY SAYS HE RESIGNED 'VERBALLY'

PY012346 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 1 Apr 86 p 9

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- Domestic Trade Secretary Julio Mendez surprisingly denied having submitted a letter of resignation, although he admitted he resigned "verbally" three weeks ago for family reasons. His statement came amidst lively speculation as to his successor and yesterday domestic trade secretariat sources said Mendez' whole department was ready to resign en masse in solidarity. However he is not expected to finally depart until a successor has been found.

Meanwhile price adjustments continued to be in the news as Radical deputy Jesus Rodriguez said hikes in utility rates would be no higher than six percent, adding that devaluation would be much less than eight percent. The rates are thought to be up to 12 percent behind while the devaluation is not expected to exceed five percent given the worldwide fall of the dollar. Lower House budget committee chairman Rodriguez also expressed confidence in a rapid passage of this year's budget and denied share registration would be postponed. Economy ministry sources did not rule out the possibility of official announcements related to the Austral plan in the course of this week. President Raul Alfonsin is reported to have studied the proposed devaluation and public service price hikes after his return from Chascomus on Sunday night. Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille is to address the Radical National Committee today on "stability and growth."

BARTHELEMY ON TEACHERS ISSUE, MINEWORKER LEADER

PY011433 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Those who incite a hunger strike will be tried. Teacher union leaders will be arrested if their attitudes become harmful to third parties. The government will guarantee the personal safety of the teachers who start work. Daniel Ordonez, a mineworkers' union leader from the San Jose mining district, has gone underground. Investigations are being conducted to find out who supplied him the arms (?found) in a house in the city of Oruro.

These comments were made to Radio Panamericana by Interior, Migration and Justice Minister Fernando Barthelemy. The interior minister first spoke about the intransigence of the teacher union leaders and of the possibility that they may be arrested, and further commented that their attitudes may be harmful to third parties.

[Begin recording] Now, it is not true that teacher union leaders have been arrested or that an attempt has been made to arrest any of them. What we can say is that whenever these demonstrations, these protests, reach a point when they become harmful to third parties who are not involved in this problem, then we will indeed hold the teacher union leaders who organize this type of protest responsible for these actions. Furthermore, as we have said before, we will arrest them. [end recording]

Afterward, the interior minister emphasized that those who incite a hunger strike will be tried. The interior minister also referred to the government's guarantee to those teachers who return to work.

[Begin recording] As you know, a hunger strike is considered a crime under the penal code. Therefore, it is possible that those who incite a hunger strike and those who hold a hunger strike can be tried as established by the penal code. [end recording]

Later, Fernando Barthelemy reported that Daniel Ordonez, a mineworkers' union leader from San Jose mining district, has gone underground. The interior minister stated that there have been no more arrests in connection with the discovery of an arms cache at a house in the city of Oruro.

[Begin recording] Yes, the investigations are continuing. Union leader Daniel Ordonez has indeed gone underground. He in indeed wanted by the police for being directly involved in the possession of those arms.

In this case we can indeed talk of a person who has gone underground. We can say this about a union leader, although he resigned his position a few days ago for reasons that have absolutely nothing to do with this case. Internal struggles within his trade union forced him to resign. He has indeed gone underground, and we are looking for him. When we arrest him we will question him and place him at the disposal of the courts. [end recording]

These were comments that Interior, Migration, and Justice Minister Dr Fernando Barthelemy made exclusively for Radio Panamericana.

Miner Ordonez Rejects Charges

PY011435 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Excerpts] Daniel Ordonez, a mineworkers' leader from the San Jose mine in Oruro, has categorically denied the Interior Ministry's report that he delivered arms to two young men who also are named Ordonez and now are being held by the Interior Ministry.

Ordonez explained that 2 weeks ago he stopped being a union representative for the Oruro Miners. He made this statement exclusively to Radio Panamericana in Oruro. Ordonez pointed out that he did not deliver any arms to the young men being held by the Interior Ministry and denied that he is related to them.

He then referred to a note published in the Oruro newspapers in which the parents of those arrested clarified that they are not related to him. Ordonez added that he is currently working normally, drilling inside the mine, and that he is not involved in delivering any arms.

COB REPORTS GOVERNMENT 'REPRESSIVE ACTIONS'

PY311635 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2201 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] La Paz, 30 Mar (EFE) -- The Bolivian Labor Confederation (COB), the biggest labor organization in the country, today reported that the government is carrying out repressive actions against leaders of teacher unions, warning that social upheaval can be unleashed in answer to the repression.

Over 75,000 urban and rural teachers have been on an indefinite general strike for 2 months to demand better salaries and are now threatening to fast, despite the government's warning that their jobs will be declared vacant if they do not show up for work by tomorrow.

In a document signed by Walter Delgadillo, Angel Zaballa, Jose Justiniano and others, the COB says that the government has raided the headquarters of several teacher unions and the houses of teacher union leaders.

The COB warns that "this attitude tends to resemble the repressive action carried out against the September 1985 labor mobilization that rejected the government's economic policies." The document adds that the "COB strongly rejects this new attack on people's freedom and reiterates its clear position in defense of education at all levels."

The COB document says that "the people, who are demanding a constitutional right based on the law and social justice, cannot be held responsible if a social upheaval is unleashed."

The COB points out that "the government will bear the responsibility if an effective solution is not found to the educational and social problems which have been worsened by the government's negative response to the calls for the urgent need to solve the conflict."

MNRV DEPUTY ARRESTED ON INTERIOR MINISTRY ORDERS

PY311427 Paris AFP in Spanish 1533 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] La Paz, 30 Mar (AFP) -- Deputy Tiburcio Mamani, of the Vanguard Revolutionary Nationalist Movement (MNRV), has been arrested by police agents who have violated his congressional immunity, MNRV head Carlos Serrate Reich reported today. According to Serrate, Deputy Mamani was forcibly taken from his residence to a police cell, where he is being held incommunicado by police agents who ignored the fact that they were dealing with a congressman.

Police sources have said that the case is in the hands of the Interior Ministry, which will shortly announce the reason for the arrest of Deputy Tiburcio Mamani. The MNRV has announced that it will be filing a formal protest over the arrest of its deputy from La Paz and at the same time filing a court action against those responsible for Mamani's arrest.

JOINT MANEUVERS WITH U.S. TO START 22 APRIL

PY010207 Paris AFP in Spanish 2255 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] La Paz, 31 Mar (AFP) -- Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces General Raul Lopez Leyton reported here today that the Chapare Region, located in the center of Bolivia and the main area in which coca leaf and cocaine are produced, will be the scene of joint Bolivian-U.S. military maneuvers. The high-ranking officer also indicated that the U.S. military forces will bring sophisticated communications equipment, helicopters, launches and an unknown number of men from the Southern Command. The maneuvers, which have been scheduled to start on 22 April, have been named "Bol-USA II" Program.

Lopez Leyton also indicated that he has informed President Victor Paz Estenssoro, who is also captain general of the Armed Forces, about the phases and scope of the joint maneuvers. He added that specially trained troops from the Non-Commissioned Officers Training School, the Jungle Operations Training School, and the Condores School will take part in the program. Finally, he said that the appropriate request has been made to Congress asking that it approve the presence of foreign troops on national territory.

It has been recalled that the "Bol-USA II" maneuvers should have been carried out last year, but Congress refused authorization because it considered that the precepts of the defense of national sovereignty were being violated.

PRESIDENT SARNEY RECEIVES UN SECRETARY GENERAL

PY011404 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Excerpt] President Jose Sarney has told UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar that Brazil will pay most of its debt to United Nations this year. Brazil has not paid its annual quota since (?1964) and now intends to pay 70 percent of the debt with money taken from the Itamaraty budget.

Yesterday Sarney and Perez de Cuellar met for nearly 3 hours at Planalto Palace and spent some time together after a luncheon at Alvorada Palace. The Brazilian President also told Perez de Cuellar that Brazil will be a candidate for the UN Security Council at the UN General Assembly in 1987.

View Falklands Conflict

PY012230 Paris AFP in Spanish 1706 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Brasilia, 1 Apr (AFP) -- UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar recalled in Brasilia today that Great Britain still refuses to accept his good offices to negotiate the Malvinas Islands conflict with Argentina. Perez de Cuellar said that Great Britain maintains that attitude despite the four recommendations that the United Nations has approved on this matter. However, he explained, Argentina is willing to accept the good offices of the secretary general.

The topic of the South Atlantic was included in the message that President Jose Sarney sent today on the occasion of the assumption by Brazilian Ambassador Celso Antonio de Sousa e Silva of the presidency of the Geneva Disarmament Conference. Sarney stated, as he did before the General Assembly on 23 September 1985, that Brazil will make every possible effort to preserve the South Atlantic as an area of peace. Sarney stressed that this includes keeping that area out of the sphere of the arms race, free of nuclear weapons, and free of any type of involvement in conflicts in other areas.

Tomorrow, 2 April, is the fourth anniversary of the recovery of the Malvinas Islands by Argentina. The islands were occupied by Great Britain in 1833.

GREAT BRITAIN INTERESTED IN SELF-PROPELLED GUN

PY011637 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 31 Mar 86 p 15

[Excerpts] Brasilia -- Great Britain is negotiating the purchase of a Brazilian-made self-propelled gun that will be officially presented to the British authorities at the British Defense Equipment Exhibition to be held at Aldershot next June.

The self-propelled gun, which is named the Mallet, was designed and manufactured by the Verolme Shipyard Company in Angra dos Reis, Rio de Janeiro State. It is a 105-mm gun, which is standard for NATO. The presentation ceremony of the first foreign equipment ever exhibited at Aldershot will be attended by the British defense minister and the Brazilian defense minister, Leonidas Pires Goncalves.

The Mallet is a 45-ton vehicle intended to replace the U.S.-made M-109 in the armies of three European nations. The potential market is calculated at 3,000 units.

The vehicle was originally designed on the basis of the FM-70 gun under a trinational project undertaken by the FRG Rheinmetall, the British Vickers-Armstrong, and the Italian Oto Melara companies. The tracked Mallet prototpye is powered by a 1,000-hp Rolls Royce engine and is capable of speeds up to 50 km per hour. The vehicle has a hydropneumatic suspension system that was developed by the British Dunlop company and that is similar to that of the Osorio tank manufactured by Engesa [Specialized Engineers, Inc.].

Its standardized equipment will include a computerized firing control system and systems for protecting the crew in nuclear, biological, and chemical warfare. All its components will be manufactured by Verolme in Brazil, except the gun barrel.

The estimated cost per unit is $4.5 million, that is, $1 million more than the vehicle developed by Engesa on the basis of its Osorio tank. The value of the potential market for this new product of the Brazilian military industry is estimated at $13.5 billion.

FORMER HAITIAN POLICE CHIEF IN PREVENTIVE CUSTODY

PY011428 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Former Haitian police chief Colonel Albert Pierre arrives today in Brasilia, where he will remain in preventive custody for 90 days at the Federal Police Headquarters. The Haitian Government has requested the Colonel's extradition, and the request will now be considered by the Federal Supreme Court.

USSR, EAST EUROPE TO PURCHASE FIBER OPTICS

PY311221 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 29 Mar 86 p 15

[Text] The Brazilian Government through Itamaraty is negotiating with East European countries a 4-year export contract for 1,500 km of fiber optic components manufactured by Telebras (Brazilian Telecommunications, Inc.) The sale of 400 kilometers of submarine fiber optic cable over a 2-year period to the Soviet Union has already been contracted by the ABC-TAL company. The fiber optic cable is more reliable and cheaper than copper telephone wire.

CUADRA ON U.S. OFFICIALS' REMARKS, REAGAN LETTER

PY020251 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Excerpt] Minister Secretary of Government Javier Cuadra, in referring to statements by some U.S. Government officials, has said that the truth is that those statements are rather unfortunate and that they hardly reflect a concrete U.S. policy. Minister Cuadra was asked about the contents of the letter that President Ronald Reagan sent to President Pinochet. He said it was an ordinary document within the framework of the correspondence exchanged by the two chiefs of state which is part of the link maintained by the two governments. Cuadra said that the contents of the letter are confidential and that any interpretation given by some sectors is nothing more than speculation and not based on the real content of the document.

Lastly, he was asked the government's opinion regarding the use of the money sent by the French Catholics to Chile and which, according to a press report, is used by opposition magazines instead of being used for its real purpose of social aid. Minister Cuadra said that the government learned about this charge and will investigate, because there have been many other cases in the past in which funds raised for pastoral purposes are used for exclusively political activities. The minister said that it is a problem that reflects one of the greatest conflicts currently existing in the Western Hemisphere, that is, the infiltration of political groups linked to Marxism in religious sectors.

MINERS' MARCH PROMPTS MILITARY DEPLOYMENT

PY020242 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2318 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Santiago, 1 Apr (TELAM-ANSA) -- A considerable number of military forces equipped for combat were deployed today along the route that the miners from the Chuquicamata copper mine will follow if they decide to proceed tomorrow with a scheduled march between the mine and Calama. Regional Intendant Brigadier General Carlos Meirelles today prohibited the march on the grounds that he considers it a clearly political action with perfectly foreseeable consequences. The first and second labor unions of Chuquicamata, the largest open pit mine in the world, called upon the 8,000 workers to demonstrate against the government's refusal to grant the salary increases that the labor leaders requested some time ago.

The miners' march will take place simultaneously with a mass that will be held at the Calama cathedral, at the request of the dissident Association of Chilean Education Workers (AGECH), to mark the first anniversary of the kidnapping and murder of three communist leaders of this organization: its president, Manuel Guerrero, the sociologist Jose Manuel Parada, who was also a member of the Vicariate of Solidarity of the Catholic Church, and advertising expert Santiago Nattino Allende.

The prohibition to march and the heavy deployment of military troops backed by trucks and jeeps have worsened the tension throughout the area, especially in Calama because people fear a repetition of past confrontations between miners and police and military personnel which resulted in many injuries and arrests. Regional Intendant Meirelles said this afternoon that the organizers of the march will be held responsible for any casualties or damages.

FOREIGN MINISTER SCORES U.S. AID TO CONTRAS

PA012151 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2043 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Bogota, 1 Apr (EFE) -- Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo said today that the U.S. Government's search for aid for the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries is worrisome. The foreign minister said that the economic aid approved by the U.S. Senate last week "aggravates the tension in the region in spite of the efforts being made by the Contadora Group (Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela) with Latin American support." Ramirez said: "In the past 2 months the tension has become worse, and we have not advanced substantially in what we want -- in the signing of the Contadora peace act." The Colombian minister said that "so long as the five Central American countries do not agree and have the political will that the situation demands, it will be impossible to secure peace."

Ramirez Ocampo cautioned that the work of the Latin American mediation organization has not concluded "because the internal reconciliation processes have not concluded either." He noted, however, that a commission for watching the Nicaragua-Costa Rican border has been created. The foreign minister said that the point of view of the four Contadora Group countries and of the Support Group (Argentina, Brazil, Peru, and Uruguay), which was expressed in Caraballeda, Venezuela, on 11 January, "has not found a response in the countries in conflict" and this aggravates the situation. He concluded by stating: "The Contadora peace act clearly establishes that the withdrawal of foreign military advisers is one of the conditions for putting an end to the conflict. We hope that this condition is met."

GOVERNMENT RELEASES GUERRILLA CASUALTY FIGURES

PA010411 Paris AFP in Spanish 0320 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Bogota, 31 Mar (AFP) -- Official sources quoted by the Bogota newspaper EL ESPACIO state that some 245 people were killed in Colombia during the first 3 months of 1985 [as received], as a result of extremist raids and armed clashes between the Army and the guerrillas. According to figures supplied by the state security agencies, in that period 96 guerrillas, 79 policemen, 39 Army troops, and 31 civilians, nearly all peasants, were killed. Most of the killings (138) occurred in the southeastern provinces of Cauca and Valle, where the most serious clashes took place between regular troops and the international America Battalion, made up of Colombians of the M-19, Peruvians of the Tupac Amaru group, and Ecuadoreans of the Alfaro Lives movement. The item added that several foreign insurgents were shot down in those clashes or taken prisoner in those regions.

ECOPETROL TO EXPAND OIL PROSPECTING PROGRAM

PA292100 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 21 Mar 86 p 8 A

[Excerpt] Alfredo Carvajal Sinisterra, president of Ecopetrol [Colombian Petroleum Enterprise], has said that the drop in international petroleum prices will not affect oil prospecting programs in Colombia. On the contrary, he said, this year there will be a 33-percent increase in this activity and the $113-million investment in the 1986-1987 period. While 60 exploratory wells were drilled in 1985, 86 will be drilled in 1986 because commitments have been established through partnership contracts and they must be fulfilled, the Ecopetrol president said.

COMMUNICATIONS CONTROL ORGANIZATION DISSOLVED

PY011219 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] The government has just reported the dissolution of the Sinacoso [National Social Communications System], the organization which controls the media. The Sinacoso, originally called the OCI [Central Information Office], was created in 1974 at the height of the dictatorship and became the institution which best represented the plans of the military government. The OCI managed and administered the press and television in favor of the de facto regime and the group which held power, thus creating what was popularly known as the restricted press: reporting which admitted to criticism.

Several times the OCI encouraged the closing of newspapers, magazines, and radios, eliminating any chance of discrepancy. For this reason, its continued existence during Fernando Belaunde Terry's regime, which restored full freedom of expression and returned the media to their legitimate owners, was absurd. Alan Garcia however, promised during his electoral campaign to dissolve the Sinacoso, saying that this organization had no place in a democracy and that its termination would show the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance's respect for the freedom of expression.

The government has just taken a very important step, clearly defining its image and commitments, confirming with facts the promises it made during the electoral campaign. Meaningless therefore is the effort made by Sinacoso to affiliate itself with a new order [nonaligned news agency pool sponsored by Cuba], under which it could hold forums and meetings with countries that have similar organizations but that do not enjoy the same public liberties we do, as is the case of countries of the communist sphere.

We support and praise this government gesture, inspired probably by the policies of President Garcia, who thus confirms his clear and open commitment to democracy, in which he is supported by his press adviser Hugo Otero. We are certain that the entire country will also support and praise this decision, like all of us who believe in and support democracy and a free press in Peru. Beyond the importance of this dissolution for the freedom of the press, there is also the administrative aspect to be considered. This effective action puts an end to an organization which no longer had any reason to exist.

POLICE PREVENT PLACEMENT OF 600 DYNAMITE STICKS

PY282111 Paris AFP in Spanish 2103 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Lima, 26 Mar (AFP) -- A police bomb squad yesterday defused approximately 600 dynamite sticks that were to be used to blow up the transmission plant of Radio Nacional and an antenna field of the National Telecommunications Enterprise of Peru [Entelperu] in Villa Marina, Chorrillos district, the police reported today in Lima.

The explosives, which were found in three wooden boxes, could have caused a tragedy in several shantytowns in the southern section of Lima, according to the police squad which discovered the subversives and made them flee as they were trying to plant the dynamite. The boxes were 200 meters from Villa Marina, near the transmission plant of the official radio station and Entelperu. The dynamite sticks were defused and picked up by a Republican Guard bomb squad.

POLICE TARGET GUAYAGA COCAINE PROCESSORS

PY010053 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Alto Guayaga and Central Guayaga have been chosen by drug trafficking rings as their supply centers for cocaine paste. Police are now trying to cut off this connection, which is usually made through a huge network of clandestine airstrips for light aircraft coming from Colombia and Brazil. Alejandro Guerrero now has a report for you on the "Condor III" operation in the Guayaga.

[Begin relay] This is the Alto Guayaga region in Huanuco Department, a forested and rugged terrain, where international drug trafficking rings have their most important production centers for cocaine paste. On both banks of the Guayagas River -- where there are huge tracts of cultivated land -- hundred of tons of coca leaves are being produced. The coca leaves are the raw material for processing cocaine hydrochloride, which the drug traffickers sell throughout the world. The coca leaf plantations and crushing pits in Guayagas are an important link of the international drug trafficking network.

Along the river, from Tingo Maria to Tarapoto, the towns of Aucayacu, Uchiza, Tocache, Progreso, and (Sion) are regarded by the police as the most efficient producers of cocaine paste. More than 80 clandestine airstrips are operating in the area. These airstrips are being heavily used by light Colombian aircraft.

Within the durg trafficking organization, the Guayagas is closely linked to the Amazonian triangle where hundreds of laboratories process cocaine hydrochloride from the cocaine paste. Dozens of light Colombian planes take off daily from the Amazon triangle bound for Huanuco Department, overfly our Amazon area, land on the airstrips located on both banks of the Guayagas River, pick up the cocaine paste and return to the border before sunset. The main goal of the Civil Guard, which this week -- supported by Peruvian Air Force helicopters -- launched a huge raid in the Guayagas area, is to break this air bridge.

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKERS CAPTURED -- Personnel from the Raw Material Control Division of the Peruvian Investigative Police [PIP] captured an eight-member drug-trafficking gang in Peru on 28 February. Three trucks transporting 105 containers of sulfuric acid, used for making cocaine paste, were stopped at the Corcona road police control post on their way to Uchiza. [Summary] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 12 Mar 86 p A 8 PY]

LOAN AGREEMENT WITH CAF -- Lima, 17 Mar (AFP) -- Peru today signed two loan agreements with the Andean Development Corporation (CAF) for $40 million; $25 million for a government industrial reactivation program and $15 million to finish a national microwave network. [Summary] [Paris AFP in Spanish 0310 GMT 18 Mar 86 PY]

GOVERNMENT ACCEPTS EXPLANATION OF REAGAN COMMENTS

PY020142 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Montevideo, 1 Apr (EFE) -- Today Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias disclosed that Uruguay has deemed satisfactory the U.S. Government's explanations about President Ronald Reagan's statements regarding alleged Sandinist support to subversive groups in Latin American countries.

Iglesias confirmed that before Holy Week Uruguay had requested the U.S. Embassy in Montevideo give an explanation regarding Reagan's statements.

The U.S. President had expressly stated that guerrilla elements that received "shelter, training, forged documents, and, in some cases, weapons" were going to Uruguay, Argentina, and Brazil.

On Monday, 31 March, Iglesias held a meeting with U.S. Ambassador to Montevideo Malcolm Wilkey and received an explanation.

According to diplomatic sources, the United States explained to Uruguay, as it did to Argentina and Brazil, that it "has no proof that extremists supported by the Sandinists are operating in these countries."

The three countries had demanded an explanation from the United States after the speech Reagan made in Grenada. [as received]

Uruguay, together with Argentina and Brazil, forms part of the Support Group for the Contadora Group (Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela) that since 1983 has been seeking a negotiated settlement to the Central American crisis.

PRESIDENT ISSUES REPORT ON 1985 DEVELOPMENT PLAN

PA011601 Mexico City XHDF Television Network in Spanish 0300 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] President Miguel de la Madrid today presented to the Permanent Commission of Congress the report on the implementation of the 1985 National Development Plan. The president thus fulfills the planning law.

The document explains clearly that despite the seriousness of the crisis, in the last few years the nation has not halted and in many important sectors it has advanced more than was planned. For example, during 1985 the gross national product increased 3 percent and inflation increased 58 percent, which was 100 percent less than 3 years ago. The document presented by the federal executive to the Congress analyzes the progress of the country in the fulfillment of the fundamental objectives of the government in such areas as policy of the Mexican state, general economic policy, social policy, sectoral policy, decentralization of national life, regional policy, and the national democratic planning system. The document states that obvious achievements have been registered in the area of democratic coexistence and in the honesty and quick reporting of results of elections. There have also been achievements in political pluralism in popular representation, enjoyment of freedoms, and in the advance of municipal and legal reforms.

The president also pointed out in the document that with regard to structural changes, there has been an advance in the system to adapt the country to the new demands. In the area of demographic policy, population growth was reduced from 2.4 to 2.1 percent. Education was offered to 15.5 million students, a 3-percent increase from the previous year. Unemployment was reduced and inflation and public deficit rates were reduced by half during the last 2 years, the document sent by President De la Madrid to the Permanent Commission of Congress states.

BRIEFS

1986 NONPETROLEUM EXPORT PLANS -- Our country will export more than $9 billion in nonpetroleum products during 1986. This was stated by Jorge Barbaras, president of the Association of Importers and Exporters of the Mexican republic. He said that this will be achieved with the joint participation of businessmen and the government. Businessmen are getting better organized and are planning export operations better while the government is giving more facilities and is eliminating red tape, he noted. [Summary] [Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 15 Mar 86 PA]

1985 TRADE SURPLUS -- The Bank of Mexico yesterday announced that despite the fact that oil revenues dropped by almost $2 billion in comparison with 1984, there was an overall trade surplus in 1985. This surplus amounted to $396.3 million. The 1985 oil export figure was $14,683,700,000 which compared to the $16,499,900,000 figure for the previous year is an 11-percent drop. The Bank of Mexico noted that total exports in 1985 amounted to $21, 835,000,000, which, compared to the $24,053,000,000 export figure for 1984, represented a 9.2 percent drop. This drop took place in exports of the public and private sectors. [Summary] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 15 Mar 86 pp 1A, 9A PA]

OIL RESERVES DOWN -- Mexico's proven petroleum reserves continue their decline, Pemex announced Sunday night. This is the second time during President de la Madrid's six-year term that Pemex has officially recognized this phenomenon. December 1985 level registered 70.9 billion barrels, while in 1984 proven reserves dropped from the all-time high of 72.5 billion barrels to 71.75 billion barrels, Pemex said. This means that during 1985 petroleum reserves dropped by 850 million barrels. Pemex stated that this slow depletion of reserves is due to drilling to produce 1.317 billion barrels of hydrocarbon products annually for domestic use and exports. [Excerpt] [Mexico City THE NEWS in English 24 Mar 86 p 43 PA]

EL SALVADOR

COPREFA COMMUNIQUE ON CLASHES, CASUALTIES

PA020331 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1700 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Coprefa communique, no date given, read by unidentified Coprefa spokesman -- live phone relay]

[Text] The deaths of four terrorists, and the confiscation of one M-16 rifle, ammunition clips, and ammunition are reported as the result of a clash between members of the 3d Infantry Brigade from San Miguel and extremist forces. The action took place northeast of the town of San Fernando, Morazan Department.

In addition, Juan Sanchez, Marcenaro del Carmen Zeron, and Nicolas Antonio Zeron were wounded when they stepped on an explosive device that was set up by the subversives. This event took place at Canton El Platanar, Suchitoto jurisdiction, Cuscatlan Department. Furthermore, an Agrarian Development Bank warehouse was partially damaged when a group of terrorists attacked it. The attack was repelled by personnel of the 5th Military Detachment from Cojutepeque who were close to the area. The warehouse is located on the road between San Rafael Cedros and Ilobasco. Lastly, an electric pole was destroyed by terrorists last 30 March, close to (Cerro el Cumbo), Tecoluca jurisdiction, San Vicente Department.

CORRECTION TO ARENA PRESIDENT ON CORRUPTION

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "ARENA Urges President Duarte To Fight Corruption," published in the 28 March Latin America DAILY REPORT on pages P 3-4:

Page P 4, fifth paragraph, line three should read: ...to probe -- in a just and impartial manner -- the illegal ... (correcting word "imperial to read "impartial")

GUATEMALA

GOVERNMENT STUDYING SOLUTIONS TO BELIZE ISSUE

PA020335 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Mario Quinonez Amezquita has stated that the Christian Democratic government is studying formulas regarding the Guatemalan-British dispute over Belizean territory.

[Begin recording] [Quinonez] We believe that we must find a solution to the dispute we have with Great Britain over Belize. We are studying formulas to hold talks with Great Britain and find a solution to the disagreement. We are studying formulas. We need to have a great deal of creativity because the formulas that were used in the past have not led to the desired results. Therefore, we have to think of formulas that will maintain national dignity and that will [words indistinct].

[Unidentified reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Quinonez] No, because they are just ideas right now. When they are more developed and more seriously analyzed then I will be happy to reveal them. [end recording]

REBELS COLLECT 'WAR TAX' DURING HOLY WEEK

PA020333 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] The guerrillas were active during Holy Week. Guerrillas of the Rebel Armed Forces, FAR, and the Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms, ORPA, carried out a number of activities on the roads leading to La Reforma, San Marcos Departments, and to Alta Verapaz and Baja Verapaz Departments, residents who arrived in Guatemala City yesterday reported.

It was reported that dozens of guerrillas set up barricades on the roads to collect a war tax. Fortunately there were no casualties among the civilians, but there was concern among them because they were afraid that an armed clash would break out at any moment.

These actions took place on Sunday afternoon, and it was rumored that troops would be deployed to those areas. However, this did not occur, and the guerrillas fled to the mountains.

HONDURAS

AZCONA RECEIVES 'SOLIDARITY' MESSAGE FROM DUARTE

PA020326 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0252 GMT 2 Apr 86

[By German Reyes]

[Excerpts] Tegucigalpa, 1 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Honduras received a message of solidarity from the Salvadoran people and Government today concerning the Sandinist troops' raid into Honduran territory on 17 March.

Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte sent a message to President Jose Azcona Hoyo, stating his "decided and solid support to Honduras in its struggle to safeguard peace and pluralist democracy in Central America."

The note adds that peace and democracy in the Central American region are being threatened with acts such as the ones carried out by Nicaragua against Honduras this past March. In addition, Duarte tells Azcona Hoyo that his country has also been experiencing "direct or indirect" aggressions from the Sandinist People's Army of Nicaragua.

"Referring to these events, I state -- on behalf of the Salvadoran people, the government over which I preside, and my own -- our decided and united support in your struggle to safeguard peace and democracy in Central America," President Duarte's message says.

EVENTS SURROUNDING NICARAGUAN 'INVASION' VIEWED

PA011232 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 31 Mar 86 p 5

[Editorial: "The White House Informs Us That There Is Peace Again at the Border"]

[Text] According to official U.S. sources, there are no more Sandinist soldiers in Honduran territory, following the famous "invasion" that caused an extraordinary flow of news in the U.S. media, and went unnoticed in Honduras, in the middle of the Holy Week period.

As in any planned action, the "war" between Honduras and Nicaragua disappeared like a soap bubble soon after the voting in the U.S. Senate to approve the $100 million of lethal financial aid for the contras had taken place.

The result of that voting, as the main U.S. newspapers have noted, was a very limited victory, with 53 votes in favor and 47 against. If we look mathematically at the $20 million granted by President Reagan for the mobilization of Honduran troops -- 600 soldiers, it has been said -- to the Nicaraguan border, each vote in favor meant a little more than $377,000, and each Catracho [slang for Honduran] soldier mobilized represented $33,333.

Of course, it is harder to estimate the political cost. However, we believe it is much higher than the economic cost. It is clear, as the U.S. people themselves have said, that the approval of Reagan's plan has limitations which will surely increase with the decision to be made by the U.S. Congress in mid-April.

After overcoming the initial misinformation shock, congressmen and senators now seem to realize that the "invasion" into Honduras has a smell quite similar to the strategem of the Tonkin Gulf in 1964, by which the U.S. Congress was deceived into approving direct U.S. military involvement in the Vietnam war.

For Hondurans, the matter was much clearer from the beginning, because our government was frank enough to hint at the real scope of the "war," which was more a war on paper than anything else. President Azcona, commanding general of the Armed Forces, General Regalado Hernandez, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and many military unit commanders took leave and left everything in U.S. hands.

General Galvin, commander in chief of the U.S. Southern Command, flew to Tegucigalpa, surely to direct the operations, all by himself and without any restrictions. The U.S. Embassy enthusiastically handled the information aspect for the many U.S. journalists, as well as those of the U.S. backyard, who did not have a chance to see a battle or even a skirmish. During that time our Armed Forces did not issue a single bulletin.

The journalists had an opportunity to view a contra camp in our territory from the air, but they were not allowed to land there to carry out their journalistic work. At the end of the day, one thing was clear: The Nicaraguan border is perfectly delimited, and we all know where our territory ends and where our neighbor's begins. However, this is not clear to the Armed Forces, which is highly surprising.

Now, the U.S. State Department whose officials turn unidentifiable when reporting on the Honduran-Nicaraguan "war," is busy clarifying situations. Worst of all, the clarifications are not convincing. For example, they emphatically deny reports published by the influential U.S. daily THE MAIMI HERALD to the effect that the Honduran Government was forced to accept the reports on the Nicaraguan "invasion" in the face of the U.S. Government's threats to withdraw all economic aid to our country.

This could explain why President Azcona signed the letter sent to President Reagan asking him for emergency aid to stop the Sandinist hordes who, as new Attilas, stepped on our sacred land during Holy Week.

Fortunately, the tide is low now, and just as Washington told us that we were in a war, it now informs us that the danger is over. We will now wait until mid-April, when the matter will become hot again with the imminent voting in the U.S. Congress on the much-publicized $100 million for the contras, because then there will be reason for another war.

We must now act according to Honduran and Central American interests, for which our government must consider with good faith and determination the possibility of giving the Contadora Group and its Support Group direct participation in the supervision and control of the border area, as proposed by the Nicaraguan Government.

SALVADORAN GUERRILLA INCURSION REPORTED

PA012327 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2237 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 1 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- A radio station in this capital has reported that a group of 19 Salvadoran guerrillas has crossed into Honduran territory through an area on the western border.

The radio station HRN [Voz de Honduras Network], quoting reliable sources, claimed that the incursion took place last Friday through Mapulaca in the Honduran Department of Lempira, on the border with El Salvador.

According to the radio station, the guerrillas took over the town of Los Planes, Mapulaca jurisdiction. However, they were expelled by the Honduran Army Special Forces. There are no reports of any casualties inflicted on the guerrillas or on the Honduran soldiers who protect the area bordering El Salvador.

Major Jorge Alberto Arguello Moncada, director of the Armed Forces public relations office, said that he had no official information about this incident. Arguello said only that the corresponding investigations would be carried out, and should the report released by the radio station be confirmed then an official communique would be issued.

MATA SAYS U.S. PAYS OFFICIAL FOR EXTRADITIONS

PA011540 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Excerpt] Bogota, Colombia -- Honduran Juan Ramon Mata Ballesteros, who escaped from a Bogota jail and turned himself over to authorities in his country yesterday, has said that Colombian Justice Minister Enrique Parejo receives money from the U.S. Government to authorize extraditions.

During a telephone conversation from Tegucigalpa with the Toledar Radio Network of Bogota, after an audience with a judge in Tegucigalpa, Mata said that Parejo had been bought by the DEA, that is, the Drug Enforcement Administration of the United States. I do not know how much he is being paid for each extradition authorized to the United States, said Mata, who is charged with being a leader of international cocaine trafficking.

FORMER PRISONERS SEEK ASYLUM AT MEXICAN EMBASSY

PA020256 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Apr 86

[By German Reyes]

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 1 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Today the Mexican Embassy in Tegucigalpa granted asylum to seven former political prisoners who were freed yesterday in this country based on an amnesty decree issued in March.

Two other persons are also at that diplomatic representation requesting the same guarantees.

The names of the individuals who were granted asylum were not disclosed. However, it was learned that they are accompanied by a few relatives.

This afternoon the HRN radio station reported that Honduran Gustavo Alfonso Garcia Espana, who had been under arrest until yesterday, charged with allegedly acting against the Honduran state security, will travel to Mexico tomorrow after requesting asylum at the Mexican Embassy in this capital.

A spokesman for the Committee of Political Prisoners [Comite de Presos Politicos] in Tegucigalpa confirmed today that seven former prisoners are currently at the Mexican Embassy but did not give their names.

For its part, the Mexican Embassy neither denied nor confirmed that nine Hondurans citizens had been granted asylum. An embassy spokesman told ACAN-EFE that he could not make a statement due to his diplomatic status, adding that "only the Foreign Secretariat's Press Office in Mexico City can do so."

Twenty Honduran citizens who also left the Central Jail in Tegucigalpa yesterday are currently at the offices of the Honduran Christian Democratic Party, PDCH, where they have been received "for humanitarian reasons," according to Demetrio Sanchez, executive secretary of that political party. Sanchez added that those 20 individuals will travel to their places of origin tomorrow and that the PDCH has offered them food and clothing and will pay their fares home.

In Honduras, up until March there were 31 political prisoners charged with violating state security. Two of them are Costa Rican citizens, Elias Solis and his wife Martha Espinoza, and one is Salvadoran, Jose Gonzalo Flores Trejo. Flores Trejo, who was released yesterday, was arrested again by immigration authorities and charged with being in the country illegally. The Salvadoran Embassy in Tegucigalpa is trying to obtain his freedom and send him to an undisclosed country. Jose Gonzalo Flores Trejo is in need of urgent medical attention, as he has cancer of the larynx.

Prior to the issuance of the amnesty decree by the Honduran Congress, General Humberto Regalado Hernandez, commander of the Armed Forces, said that the liberation of the alleged political prisoners constitutes "a danger to the national security." According to Gen Regalado Hernandez, some of the former political prisoners were criminals who tried to "set Honduras on fire," adding that "it cost the Armed Forces much time and effort to get them behind bars." The amnesty for political prisoners in Honduras was requested by the Association of Journalists, and later several popular organizations supported the initiative.

NICARAGUA

NORA ASTORGA CITED ON LIBYA, BORDER SITUATION

PA011457 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] New York -- Nora Astorga, Nicaraguan ambassador to the United Nations, said today that the UN Security Council should reflect the will of the international community and condemn the unjustified acts of provocation and intimidation by the United States against Libya, a small, independent, and nonaligned country.

In this way, Nicaragua joined Cuba in criticizing the U.S. policy of blackmail and provocation against Libya. The Security Council, which was convened at the most tense moments of the U.S.-Libyan miniwar, stopped discussing the topic without taking a position on it, and diplomatic observers doubt that a debate on the subject will be reopened.

Nora Astorga denied that Nicaragua carried out military incursions into Honduran territory and demanded a direct dialogue not with the contras but with the Reagan administration, which finances and directs them. Ambassador Astorga gave a detailed report to the nonaligned countries regarding the latest events in the country and the situation on the border with Honduras.

For its part, the Coordination Bureau of the Nonaligned Movement stressed the importance of halting the campaign of slander and acts of aggression against Nicaragua and the need for the U.S. and Nicaraguan Governments to renew their talks on the basis of mutual respect and self-determination.

ARCE HEADS SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL MEETING GROUP

PA011447 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 1 Apr 86

[FSLN National Directorate Secretariat Communique; date not given -- read by announcer]

[Text] The FSLN National Directorate Secretariat reports that Commander of the Revolution Bayard Arce Castano, deputy coordinator of the Executive Commission of the FSLN National Directorate, heads the FSLN delegation that will participate in the meeting of the Latin American Committee of the Socialist International that will be held in the Dominican Republic from 2 to 5 April.

The delegation also includes Comrades Jose Pasos Marciacq, deputy chief of the International Relations Department of the FSLN, and Bolivar Diaz and Hugo Meneses, officials of that department.

After 25 years, all weapons against aggression!

DEFENSE MINISTRY REPORTS ACTIONS, CASUALTIES

PA012340 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 1 Apr 86 pp 1, 8

[Communique from the Defense Ministry's Public and Foreign Relations Directorate, dated in Managua, on 31 March]

[Text] One hundred and fifteen additional casualties were inflicted by the EPS on the counterrevolutionary forces during the clashes that took place from 24-30 March. This again represents a failure on the part of the mercenaries to try and show their military might, to disrupt the people's peace during the festivities with their actions, and achieve publicity for their plans concerning actions against our people.

The main military actions took place in the sector of Nueva Quinea and La Pinuela, Zelaya Department, and in Jinotega and Chontales Departments. Twenty-two clashes are reported, including the following:

Clashes on 27 March: in the southeastern sector of San Pedro del Norte, Zelaya Department, where the mercenaries inflicted 12 casualties; in the north, northwest, and south sectors of La Pinuela, Zelaya Department, where AK rifles, M-79 grenade launchers, dynamite, and hand grenades were seized and 12 enemy casualties were inflicted.

Chontales Department: Clashes were reported in the north and northwest sectors of Santo Domingo, where five contras were killed on 30 March.

In addition, Jinotega Department was the site of clashes in the sectors of Loma Azul, located west of Pantasma, where 20 contras were killed; southeast of Quilali, where a clash ensued on 24 March, and 10 mercenaries were killed; and near San Sebastian de Yali and San Rafael del Norte, where 14 additional casualties were inflicted on the enemy.

In the same department the counterrevolutionaries ambushed a civilian truck on 24 March, at 1120, while it was travelling through the sector of Yacalwas, 9 km northeast of Wiwili; two civilians were killed, eight wounded, and the truck was destroyed by the mercenaries.

Public and Foreign Relations Directorate, Defense Ministry

CARDINAL REJECTS 'SLANDER' AGAINST PRIESTS

PA272314 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2027 GMT 27 Mar 86

[By Denis Garcia Salinas]

[Text] Managua, 27 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Nicaraguan Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo today attacked the Sandinist Government because it is "insulting and slandering" Catholic priests. The prelate availed himself of the Eucharist during the traditional Maundy Thursday mass, at the Massarelo School in this capital, to criticize the official news media.

Cardinal Obando y Bravo asserted that Catholic priests are being "demolished" by the Sandinist media's "insults and slander." Addressing more than 5,000 persons, the Vatican's representative in this country criticized the Sandinist regime because it sponsors a constant "bombing" against the priests through the official news media.

Less than 24 hours after Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto said that Cardinal Obando y Bravo was an "accomplice" of "Reagan's crimes due to his silence" the prelate rejected the Sandinist official's charges. The cardinal asked the parishoners to "pray for the priests who are being insulted" by the government's news media.

The Managua Archdiocese Sacerdotal Council issued a communique supporting Obando y Bravo and criticizing the campaign against them aimed at provoking "aversion and hate" of the church. The president of the Episcopal Conference of Nicaragua (CEN) also rejected the Sandinist Government's accusations that the prelate had gone to Washington to contribute to the campaign to discredit this country.

Obando y Bravo referred to this issue and described the Sandinists' constant attacks as "slander." The regious official said that the reason for his trip was not to be an instrument supporting the approval of $100 million which President Ronald Reagan requested for the rebels to fight the Nicaraguan regime. He added: "We did not go to the United States to sell our homeland."

Miguel Obando y Bravo and CEN Vice President Pablo Antonio Vega went to the United States and the two prelates strongly criticized the Sandinists.

Obando y Bravo accused the Sandinists of carrying out "religious persecution," and meanwhile, Vega said that the government in Managua had assassinated three priests, but he offered no evidence. Given this situation, the Sandinists unleashed a strong campaign against the two religious leaders, who were accused by D'Escoto and Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega of being "counterrevolutionaries and traitors to the homeland."

Cardinal Obando y Bravo justified their trip to Washington by saying that they had gone there to denounce the expulsion of 10 priests from Nicaragua in July 1984. Obando y Bravo maintained that the expelled priests were "interrogated and their fingerprints were taken." The cardinal rejected, therefore, the charge that the "Nicaraguan bishops are stained with blood."

Later, during his Holy Week homily, the cardinal criticized the economic, political, and social situation which prevails in the country. "There is no deliverance in the country if hunger and scarcity prevail, and the jails -- which he described as the devil's cauldrons -- are full of prisoners," he asserted. Obando y Bravo prayed for the dead in the rebel and government ranks, "because they are all Nicaraguans." The prelate also reasserted that he is a Nicaraguan.

Views D'Escoto Remarks

PA290056 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2017 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Bogota, 28 Mar (DPA) -- Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo, Cardinal of Nicaragua, today affirmed that the foreign minister of the Sandinist government in his country, Catholic priest Miguel D'Escoto, is "a poor and frustrated man, full of rancor." He said that on the occasion of Easter Week, he will ask Nicaragua's Catholics to pray to heaven for D'Escoto who, he said, has declared himself in rebellion against the Vatican which has suspended him from his priestly functions and prohibited his participation in politics, a fact that he refuses to accept.

Obando y Bravo made this statement during a radio interview in Managua broadcast live by the Colombian radio station Circuito Todelar [of Bogota]. He had been asked his opinion regarding D'Escoto's charges that he has become a U.S. ally and, therefore, an enemy of his own fatherland.

The leader of the Nicaraguan church, who is the archbishop of Managua, also said that he appreciates the work being carried out by the Contadora Group -- Colombia, Panama, Venezuela, and Mexico -- in favor of peace in Central America. Obando y Bravo noted, however, that in his opinion Contadora has put too much emphasis on an external solution and that in Nicaragua, the church is in favor of a broad domestic political agreement, something that is not viewed favorably by the Sandinist Government.

The Nicaraguan prelate, who spoke at length, lent no importance to D'Escoto's charges, which were stressed in recent hours during a religious ceremony presided over by the Sandinist foreign minister at Managua's Plaza de la Revolution. The Cardinal said that there is no tie at all between the U.S. Government and Nicaragua's Catholic hierarchy although it is true that the U.S. Catholic Church as well as that of other Latin American countries and of the rest of the world are supporting it in the face of the current difficulties with the government in that Central American country.

Obando y Bravo said that he recently visited the United States for the sole purpose of denouncing the injustices that the Nicaraguan people are enduring.

He also said he hopes other Latin American nations do not have to endure the political and social "frustrations" being suffered by the Nicaraguans. Obando y Bravo stated that the specter of hunger is beginning to hit some Managua neighborhoods and other Nicaraguan areas and that in spite of threats against his life resulting from his confrontation with the Sandinist Government, he will fearlessly go on with his apostolic work.

Cardinal Criticized

PA281424 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo has again launched his attacks with lies that are repeated daily by the White House to justify the war against Nicaragua. The counterrevolutionary radio stations, Radio 15 September and Radio Impacto which are located in Honduran and Costa Rican bases, have been promoting the activities of Cardinal Obando y Bravo during this Holy Week.

This Maundy Thursday, the cardinal officiated a mass at the chapel of the Maria Mazarello school of Managua in full freedom. This contrasts with the assertions in his sermon about the existence of a systematic persecution of the church by the government. He said that he and the other bishops of the Episcopal Conference have been insulted and slandered by the country's social communications media which, he said, want to turn us away from the path of our pastoral duty. Nevertheless, the Nicaraguan cardinal also said that there can be no salvation or liberation when adults and children die from lack of medicine and health centers, when there is negligence by doctors and nurses, when there is hunger, and when there are political prisoners forgotten in the jails.

Father Miguel D'Escoto challenged the bishops to denounce the U.S. aggression which is the cause of some of the problems that Cardinal Obando y Bravo mentioned. However, Obando y Bravo continues to refuse to do so. There is a powerful interest that prevents him from doing so. Obando y Bravo spoke about the lack of medicine, but he did not say that it is the result of the Reagan administration's trade embargo. He spoke about the shortage of health centers but he ill-intentionally concealed that the health centers that were built by the revolutionary government in places where there had never been medical attention, and that they have been and continue to be destroyed by the mercenary bands in the service of Reagan. The cardinal spoke about political prisoners forgotten in the jails when in fact the Nicaraguan prison system has been clearly praised by human rights officials of countries and international organizations that have visited Nicaragua.

Because of his arguments, his lies, his false concepts of the Sandinist people's revolution, he continues to lash out wildly and to repeat arguments that cannot stand up to the most minimal analysis. Because he does not have truth to back him up, he refused to attend the television debate to which he was invited on Wednesday. That was a good opportunity for the Nicaraguan people to hear his accusations and arguments.

Father D'Escoto had pointed out that a single clear and categorical statement by the bishops would halt the U.S. Congress' allocations but the prelates continue to refuse to issue such a statement.

DELEGATIONS TO NONALIGNED MEETING ARRIVE

PA311304 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Mar 86

[Text] Several delegations have arrived in Havana to participate in the meeting of ministers of education and culture of the Nonaligned Movement which is to start at the Conventions Palace of the Cuban capital on Tuesday. Representatives of Congo, Burkina Faso, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar, Democratic Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Cape Verde, and Iraq are already in Havana. The participants in the meeting, which will end Friday, will analyze topics concerning education policy, the democratization of education and culture, and education for peace.

Education Minister's Greetings

FL012338 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Excerpt] The need to structure in form and content the educational and cultural systems of developing countries continues to be the main concern in all the speeches made today at the second meeting of education and culture ministers from the Nonaligned Movement and other developing countries. The meeting began this morning in Havana's Palace of Conventions.

Jose Ramon Fernandez, alternate Politburo member of the Communist Party of Cuba and education minister, greeted the participants in the name of the Cuban Government. He referred to the first meeting held 3 years ago and said:

[Begin recording] The time that has passed confirms the importance and the role of the Nonaligned Movement as well as the need to continue advancing in the areas of culture and education as the primary objective of the battle we maintain for peace and progress for our peoples. [end recording]

FOREIGN MINISTRY DELEGATION ENDS TALKS IN ZAMBIA

FL010306 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 0206 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] The next ministerial meeting of nonaligned countries that will be held in April was the main topic of conversation at the discussions held in Lusaka, Zambia, between representatives of the Cuban and Zambian Foreign Ministeries. The negotiations ended today between delegations from the two countries, presided over by M.J. (Sikao), Zambian vice minister of Foreign Affairs, and Ulises Estrada, chief of the Nonaligned Movement division of the Cuban Foreign Ministry. Also discussed at the meeting was the next nonaligned countries' summit, to be held in Harare, Zimbabwe, in September. The Cuban delegation arrived in Lusaka last Sunday and will travel to Luanda to hold similar conversations with the Angolan Foreign Ministry.

MEXICANS TO DEFEND MIGRANT WORKERS AT IPU MEETING

PA011822 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Report by Francisco Ramirez, correspondent in Mexico City]

[Text] Mexican senators and deputies will demand equal rights for the undocumented workers who emigrate to the United States during the upcoming IPU conference, which will be held in Mexico City.

The topic of the migrant workers -- most of whom are peasants -- who are persecuted and discriminated against in the neighboring country will be included by the Mexican legislators in the agenda of the meeting, which will be held from 7 to 12 April. The Mexican group said that the migrant workers must enjoy the same rights with regard to salary, social security, vacation, housing, trade union rights, and other rights existing in the country that receives them.

Regarding the causes for the emigration, the group noted that the economic crisis gives rise to mass unemployment, which in turn increases the poverty of millions of families plagued by the lack of a secure job. Regarded as a reserve labor force, the immigrants are the first to be affected by mass layoffs and, in view of the pressing need for employment and lack of equal rights, are manipulated by pressure groups.

The topic of the undocumented workers has been one of the most sensitive issues in relations between Mexico and the United States because attempts are being made in the latter country to curb this immigration with simple policy-type measures. The Mexican press constantly publishes reports about mass arrests and deportations of Mexicans who cross the border in search for a job, as well as reports about abuses against them by their employers.

The 75th IPU conference will convene in Mexico during the second week of April, with over 2,000 legislators from 104 parliaments in the world, who will review the most important current economic, political, and social controversial issues.

SPOKESMAN VOICES CONCERN AT LAW OF SEA CONFERENCE

FL291825 Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 25 March 86 p 22

[Text] A fear that major world powers might go ahead with deep sea-bed mining to reduce their dependency on minerals supplied by the developing countries, was expressed last week by Cuba at the Law of the Sea Conference in Kingston. Cuba spoke at a meeting of the special commission on land-based producers at the Jamaica Conference Centre against the background of rich countries led by the United States issuing licences to consortia to mine the sea-bed.

The commission was discussing a working paper on remedial measures that could help land-based producer states most likely to be seriously affected by sea-bed production. Cuba said the developing countries must take into account the possibilities that major powers might decide to subsidise their consortia and go ahead with deep sea-bed mining in the near future to reduce their dependency on minerals supplied by the developing countries.

Cuba's spokesman pointed to reports that the United States, the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany had already licensed their consortia to begin sea-bed exploration as proof of their intent to proceed with deep sea-bed mining. The spokesman said that though deep sea-bed mining would be more costly than land-based mining, the major powers could subsidise operations to complete effectively with land-based producers.

Both Cuba and Colombia, however, pointed to comments made in the working paper by the United Nations Development Programmer (UNDP) to the effect that deep sea-bed mining was not likely to be economically feasible until well after the year 2000. But commenting on Cuba's statement, the representative of Australia, said the special commission was only concerned with the economy of sea-bed mining and its impact on land-based producers.

The special commission must reject the notion that sea-bed production will be based on anything other than economic considerations. The spokesman said that it must proceed on the assumption that sea-bed mining will be "non-subsidised and on strictly commercial basis."

In other talks, delegates discussed the question of confidentiality in sea-bed disputes chamber.

DISCUSSION OF PARTY PROGRAM DRAFT BEGINS

FL011323 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] The discussion of the draft of the party program is the most important political debate to be held in the history of Cuba.

In essence, it deals with the result of the revolutionary work and allows a better understanding of a Marxist-Leninist view of the history of the struggle of our countries. The program draft focuses on the circumstances of the year 2000 and considers the basic guidelines which will allow our people to build a better society.

In sum, the discussion of the draft of the party program will allow our people to identify what they really want to accomplish, how, and when. Once the program draft is discussed the party will be in a better position to lead the process of building socialism, and all our people will be able to carry out more effectively this huge task.

How will the party program draft be analysed and discussed? In today's GRANMA, official organ of the party's Central Committee, an extensive report on the subject is published. Basically, GRANMA says that the analysis and discussion process begins today, 1 April, among the party membership.

During the entire month, party grass-root organizations will discuss three of the six parts into which the important document is divided. The other three parts will be discussed in May. The draft also will be analyzed and discussed in May by the Union of Young Communists and other mass organizations. The process will end in September.

After being analyzed by all the Cuban people, the draft of the party program, greatly enriched politically and ideologically, will be submitted to a third party congress special session, which will approve its final resolution.